

APPENDIX A-Clean Set of Pending Claims

19. (Four Times Amended) A kit comprising:
a sample collection device comprising a strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having a collection pad, the collection pad being a sponge-like material made of polyvinyl alcohol,
wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis; and
an information card for providing information about the patient.
20. The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises a urine collection cup for collecting a urine sample.
21. The kit of claim 19, wherein the means for removing at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.
24. The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises packaging means for transporting the device.
25. (Amended) The kit of claim 19, wherein said strip is made of a polymer and is rigid enough to prevent drooping or bending of the strip during manipulation by a user of the device.
26. The device of claim 25, wherein said polymer is polystyrene.
27. (Amended) A device for laboratory analysis of an analyte, the device comprising:
a strip having a handle end and a collection end, the collection end having attached thereon a collection pad for collecting and drying a liquid biological sample containing the analyte,
wherein the collection pad consists essentially of a sponge-like material made of polyvinyl alcohol.
29. (Amended) The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad consists of the sponge-like material.
30. The device of claim 27, wherein the sponge-like material comprises a plurality of pores.
31. The device of claim 30, wherein the pores are sized from about 0.01 to about 1.2 mm.

32. The device of claim 27, wherein the sponge-like material has a dry density of between about 0.049 and about 0.1 gram per cubic centimeter.

33. The device of claim 27, wherein the device further comprises a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis.

34. The device of claim 33, wherein the means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.

35. The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad has applied thereon a reagent which facilitates the collection, separation, storage, transport, preservation, recovery, or analysis of the sample.

36. The device of claim 35, wherein the reagent is bovine serum albumin.

37. The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad is substantially non-reactive for purposes of providing a rapid, on-site diagnostic test.

38. The device of claim 27, wherein the device comprises a plurality of collection pads.

39. The device of claim 38, wherein the device comprises a plurality of apertures formed through the collection end of the strip.

40. The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad has absorbed therein the biological sample containing the analyte.

41. The device of claim 40, wherein the biological sample comprises urine.

42. The device of claim 41, wherein the biological sample comprises albumin derived from urine.